GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4891
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
IMPORT OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether around 70% import dependency of crude and petroleum products of the country is likely to increase to 85% over the next 20 years;

(b) if so, whether due to rise in import dependency the prices of petroleum products in the country are likely to be heavily influenced by international prices;

(c) if so, the total import bill of these products during 2005-06 and 2006-07 in terms of quantity and value; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by Government to create energy secured environment in the country and reduce import bill?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) As per report of the Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy, August 2006, of Planning Commission the oil import dependence will be in the range of 90-93 % by the year 2031-32.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, notwithstanding the steep rise in international prices of petroleum products, the Government is moderating the impact of high international prices on consumers of sensitive petroleum products.

(c) The import of crude oil and petroleum products during 2005-06 and 2006-07 in terms of quantity and value is as under :

ITEM	2006-07(P)		2005-06	
	MMT	RS. CR	MMT	RS. CR
Crude	110.9	219991	99.4	171702
Product	17.0	40389	13.4	27971
Total	127.9	260380	112.8	199673

(d) The following steps are being taken by Government to create energy secured environment in the country and reduce import bill :

i. Carving out more and more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of NELP. Six rounds of bids have so far been invited under NELP, in which 162 exploration blocks have been awarded and 37 discoveries have already been made.

ii. Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.

iii. Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.

iv. Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) has taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 13651 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

v. Arresting decline from ageing fields.

vi. Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.

vii. Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional sources of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol, etc.